

MSHA HAZARD ALERT

Water Trucks



During the past five years, five miners were fatally injured while operating water trucks at coal and metal and nonmetal surface and underground mines.

- K** A water truck operator was thrown from the operator's cab when the truck went through a berm and over an embankment.
- K** During a night training session, a new truck driver rolled the truck over the edge of a shallow embankment. The operator was crushed.
- K** A water truck operator, while descending a pit ramp, lost control of his vehicle and rolled it over several times.
- K** While descending a hill, a water truck operator lost control of the truck and crashed.
- K** A water truck, at an underground operation, was backed into an open stope and went over the edge. The operator was thrown from the vehicle.

These types of accidents can be eliminated if mine operators and water truck drivers do their part.

Mine Operators

- U** Ensure that trucks used to carry and dispense water are safely operated at the mine.
- U** Construct safe haul roads by using safe grades and proper berms, posting speed and hazard information signs, and when necessary, providing escape ramps.
- U** Confirm that regular truck maintenance is performed, making sure braking systems are maintained according to manufacturer specifications.
- U** Verify that task training is provided to all water truck operators.

Drivers

- U** Always perform pre-operational checks before putting a water truck in operation.
- U** Never operate any water truck without a thorough understanding of traffic rules at the mine site as well as safe operating procedures of the truck.
- U** Use all safety equipment including seat belts.

Do Your Part – Be Safe

